

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:	10/642,776	Confirmation No.:	3684
Filing Date:	August 18, 2003	Group Art Unit:	1639
Inventor:	Roy et al.	Examiner:	C. M. Gross
Title of Application: Composition and Methods for Proteomic Investigations			

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST TO REMOVE FINALITY OF FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

Applicant respectfully requests that the finality of the Final Office Action mailed May 14, 2008 be removed in view of error by the USPTO. Because of this error Applicant was unable substantively and constructively to respond to the prior rejection.

The Nonfinal Office Action mailed January 5, 2007 and subsequent communications mailed September 21, 2007 and December 31, 2007 mistakenly identified Fig. 28 of the Combs reference as teaching a chitin binding column. As pointed out in Applicant's Reply filed January 28, 2008, this citation to Fig. 28 does not refer to a chitin binding column (page 19, 3rd para.).

The Final Office Action admits this error, stating the correct figure should have been no. 32, and regretting any confusion that may have arisen (page 8, 1st paragraph).

In view of this admitted error, Applicant was unable to respond to this ground for rejection, and specifically was unable to present amendments and/or arguments that might have led directly to, or made progress toward, allowability. For this reason Applicant respectfully requests that the finality of the Final Office Action mailed May 14, 2008 be withdrawn, and that a new Nonfinal Office Action with a new timeline for reply be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 30, 2008

/Henry E. Auer/ 39,096
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